

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

Please replace the claims with the claims provided in the listing below wherein status, amendments, additions and cancellations are indicated.

1. (Currently amended) R switch for switching connections between microwave waveguides on and off comprising:
  - ~~with a n e ssentially p arallelepiped s tator (2), the h aving four s ide surfaces of which each have a central opening (3 to 6) for connecting to a microwave waveguide,~~
  - ~~with a rotor (7), which is disposed in the interior of the a stator (2) with its axis of rotation coaxial with the longitudinal axis of the stator (2) and which has a centrally disposed straight interconnection (8,33) and two curved paths (9,10,37,38) on either side thereof,~~
  - ~~the openings (3 to 6) of the straight interconnection (8,33) and the curved paths (9,10,37,38) being disposed in such a manner that, depending on the rotational position of the a rotor (2), each opening (3 to 6) can be connected through over the straight interconnection (8,33) or over one of the curved paths (9,10,37,38) to each of the other three openings (3 to 6).~~

•— and the straight interconnection (8, 33) being constructed as step transformers (14, 32), and characterized in that the step transformer (14, 32) of the straight interconnection (8, 33) is being formed bar-like by recesses (20 to 23, 26 to 29) incorporated in the steps (16 to 19).

2. (Currently amended) The R switch of claim 1, characterized in that wherein the step transformer (14) of the straight interconnection (8) is constructed multi-stepped (16 to 19) and that recesses (20 to 23) are incorporated on either side of the last step (17, 18) in the step transformer (14).

3. (Currently amended) The R switch of claim 1, characterized in that wherein the step transformer (32) of the straight interconnection (33) is constructed multi-stepped and that recesses (26 to 29) are incorporated on either side of all steps (16 to 19) in the step transformer (32).

4. (Currently amended) The R switch of claim 1, characterized in that wherein the step transformer (14) of the straight interconnection (8) is constructed multi-stepped (16 to 19) and that the recesses (22 to 23) are incorporated on one side of the last step (17, 18) in the step transformer (14).

5. (Currently amended) The R switch of claim 1, characterized and that wherein the step transformer (32) of the straight interconnection (33) is constructed multi-stepped and that recesses (26 to 29) are incorporated on one side of all steps (16 to 19) in the step transformer 32).

6. (Currently amended) The R switch for switching connections between microwave waveguides on and off comprising:

- — with an essentially parallelepiped stator (2), the having four side surfaces of which each have a central opening (3 to 6) for connecting to a microwave waveguide,
- — with a rotor (7), which is disposed in the interior of the a stator (2) with its axis of rotation coaxial with the longitudinal axis of the stator (2) and which has a centrally disposed straight interconnection (8, 33) and two curved paths (9, 10, 37, 38) on either side thereof,
- — the openings (3 to 6) of the straight interconnection (8, 33) and the curved paths (9, 10, 37, 38) being disposed in such a manner that, depending on the rotational position of the rotor (2), each opening (3 to 6) can be connected through over the straight interconnection (8, 33) or over one of the curved paths (9, 10, 37, 38) to each of the other three openings (3 to 6),

•— and the straight interconnection (8, 33) and the curved paths (9, 10, 37, 38) being constructed as step transformers (13, 14, 15, 32), and

characterized in that the step transformer (14, 32) of the straight interconnection (8, 33) is being constructed multi-stepped (16 to 19) and that recesses (20 to 23) are incorporated on either side of the last step (17, 18) in the step transformer (14).

7. (Currently amended) The R switch of claim 6, characterized in that wherein the step transformer (14) of the straight interconnection (8) is constructed multi-stepped (16 to 19) and that recesses (20 to 23) are incorporated on either side of the last step (17, 18) in the step transformer (14).

8. (Currently amended) The R switch of claim 6, characterized in that wherein the step transformer (32) of the straight interconnection (33) is constructed multi-stepped and that recesses (26 to 29) are incorporated on either side of all steps (16 to 19) in the step transformer (32).

9. (Currently amended) The R switch of claim 6, characterized in that wherein the step transformers (13, 15) of the curved paths (9, 10, 37, 38) are constructed multi-stepped (47 to 50) and that recesses are incorporated on either side of the last step (51 to 54) in the step transformers.

10. (Currently amended) The R switch of claim 6, ~~characterized and that~~   
wherein the step transformers (13, 15) of the curved paths (9, 10, 37, 38) are constructed multi-stepped (47 to 50) and that recesses are incorporated on either side of all steps (55 to 58) in the step transformers.

11. (Currently amended) The R switch of claim 6, ~~characterized in that~~   
wherein the step transformer (14) of the straight interconnection (8) is constructed multi-stepped (16 to 19) and that recesses (20 to 23) are incorporated on one side of the last step (17, 18) in the step transformer (14).

12. (Currently amended) The R switch of claim 6, ~~characterized in that~~   
wherein the step transformer (32) of the straight interconnection (33) is constructed multi-stepped and ~~that~~ recesses (26 to 29) are incorporated on one side of all steps (16 to 19) in the step transformer (32).

13. (Currently amended) The R switch of claim 6, ~~characterized in that~~   
wherein the step transformers (13, 15) of the curved paths (9, 10, 37, 38) are constructed multi-stepped (47 to 50) and that recesses are incorporated on one side of the last step (51 to 54) in the step transformers.

14. (Currently amended) The R switch of claim 6, characterized and that the step transformers (13, 15) of the curved paths (9, 10, 37, 38) are constructed multi-stepped (47 to 50) and that recesses are incorporated on one side of all steps (55 to 58) in the step transformers.